

WAR WILL DEMAND WHOLE EFFORT OF THIS NATION FOR VICTORY

(BY H. D. S.)

WAR, such as we are entering, cannot be made impersonal. It seems very remote as yet. Despite the flag display, the cheering throngs, the swelled chests, on every side of us, there is really very little deep down understanding of the situation, or disposition to ruffle the even course of the ordinary day's self satisfaction. As Kipling so picturesquely put it, "Little men of little minds rise up to buy and sell again." That is the fit description of each day's beginning. And routine entrails us all. Little things engross most of our time. Waste continues now as always—waste wanton and unguarded, unheeded and sometimes deliberate—waste of time, of energy, of material, of capital, of human bodies and souls. When we waste a little faster or more recklessly than usual, some of us call it pleasure. So the war seems very remote. We have not begun to awake. Sorrow still eludes us, always just around the corner. The gulf is hidden by the rank growth of weeds on its verge. Sacrifice is something to expect of others, something to offer in behalf of others, something to write letters about and poems about, something to shout about from the platform, something to mention casually over the crab cocktail and pledge impersonally between bites of custard pie. Few, mighty few, among Americans today, have the least conception of what our fathers went through in the '60s, or of what Europe, Canada, and Australasia are sustaining now, not even in the memory of those who actually participated in our former war vivid enough to enable them to picture clearly the possibilities of this new war in which we are engaging. Like the others, we can only learn, and must learn, through actual experience, by and for ourselves. Each new and trying test will be as strange to us, as hard to accept, as terrifying maybe, as if no word of history had ever been written, as if there were no newspapers, no telegraphs.

It all seems impersonal now. But how soon shall we be facing realities? We Americans, in the large, are as helpless, and as blindly trustful, as children. A senator of the United States, during the brief discussion of the "armed ship" bill just before the last congress adjourned, said in his speech, in effect, "God and the British navy will pull us through, as they have done heretofore." We expect our raw resources to rise and fight, we expect a navy to do great deeds without personnel, our little regular mobile army one-sixth the size of the New York city police force in proportion to population is beguiled by the scale of its numbers, and the supply, "Patriotism," of many Americans is expressed in the words of a prominent El Pasoan, "Send the soldiers in to fight, damn 'em, that's what we pay 'em for."

The people of the United States must try to realize the fact that war methods have all changed with this war. War is no longer a contest of limited armed bodies acting under a set of rules and confining their object to overcoming like forces of the enemy. War in this new age is a contest of whole peoples; men, women, and children engage in it, or are involved in it, and none escape its direct effects. Whole nations and races and continents are mobilized nowadays for war. War today is an intensely personal thing with each unit of the population. It is no longer possible to remain detached and at the same time retain respectability. The law of the pack supersedes completely the law of the wolf. The "slacker" is good for nothing except to throw to the enemy pack in the effort to retard its rush. It matters not, any more, from what motive an individual holds back—whether personal cowardice, greed, or "conscientious objection"—the law of the pack says "With us totally now, or take the punishment of the nameless spiritless cur."

There is every reason to hold, at present, to the conviction that we Americans are in for a long and terrible struggle. Our joining in at this stage, works two ways in Europe: It heartens the entente allies to keep up the fight, and it drives the central powers to a degree of desperation that exceeds anything the world ever saw to this hour. Goethe said of the Prussians: "They were brave, cruel, and civilization has made them fiercer." It is a weird paradox of human nature that as men become "civilized" the scale of "civilization" they have become more expert in torture and killing, and, in the mass, less sensitive to individual suffering. The present war, soon to involve us deeply, has become as awful as cosmic force itself, and the nations mobilized for the purpose of annihilating other nations are no more considerate of ultimate effects than a comet. Man's greatest single achievement in attempting to ride nature was the Titanic; its owner ordered full speed through the fog—do you recall how puny the ship looked in the imaginative

sketches showing the boat contrasted against the bulk of the iceberg? The iceberg had as much brain as combined civilization is displaying at this moment.

The United States is about to put on full speed through the fog. If the bergs keep out of our path, we shall arrive. We, like all the other great powers of earth, have concluded to defy the cosmos. The cosmos is inclined to jeer. For God's sake, let us keep God out of this bloody mess, and rely on summoning the last ounce of our physical, intellectual, and nervous powers; we shall see, in course of time, whether Nature is outside us, or whether we ourselves are Nature—perhaps, shall rule the cosmos, but when we play a game of ball with gas bombs, poison bombs, high explosive bombs, we must try not to win when the moment comes for us to dissolve back into the elements of which we are composed. A child can crush the "life" out of a bug, but who can give life to a "synthetic man" composed of things taken out of bottles in a laboratory?

William de Morgan, the Englishman, was over 70 when the war broke out. He had lived a long and busy and useful life as an engineer and then as a technical expert in art pottery. When nearing the end of his allotted time he turned to fiction writing and produced some of the world's greatest novels. One would not think of this serene old soul, this devoted artist, as akin to the wildest carnivorous animals that roam the jungle. Let us see what war—the spirit of war, and its horrors and daily news—did to him. Toward the end of his life he wrote to an intimate friend:

"I am constantly surprised at my own thirst for blood. I am sorry to say that I am barbarous by nature and catch myself gloating over slaughter—slaughter of Germans, of course—half of them men I should have liked—a tenth of them men I should have loved. It is sickening, but I am what I am. One of my favorite employments is thinking out new ways to add to the number of German submarines permanently destroyed—those coffinfuls of men very like our own."

Shall we waste time trying to think out this thing? Hardly, for time is needed to devise ways to insure our mere survival. If "ferocious" is to be the way of the winner, "ferocious" we must become or we shall perish. With the tiger coiled to spring at our throat, we prepare to aim the knife at some vital spot, hardly feeling bound to ask the tiger's pardon or to make a clean and painless kill, but feeling impelled by primal instinct to destroy the beast. If we go into this war with any idea that the rules of sport of the prize ring say, are to prevail, we shall merely endow the tiger with three heads and a hundred steel hooks for claws, and give ourselves as hostages to most unfriendly fortune. The cosmos does not seem to care much for "humanity" these days. And the cosmos does not care. We are to pit Force against Force; let us not lose sight of this fact for an instant. There are those among us who think we might do better to load our guns with butter, and present ham sandwiches instead of lead.

The president's address before congress was a forceful, clear, convincing declaration of a policy and its motives. It was the necessary, imperative thing to say. The action he urges is the inevitable thing to do. Congress cannot evade the issue, and it must act in accordance with the president's recommendations. The country must put itself in readiness to face the consequences of the decision soon to be recorded. There will be many differences of opinion among Americans concerning some details of his program, but the time is past when these differences could be allowed to divide Americans in their procedure. The president was speaking for the nation. Congress by an overwhelming vote will commit the nation to war.

It is a step of such grave importance as actually to mark the end of an era for this republic, and the beginning of a new and perilous one. Let us not make the costly mistakes that Great Britain made, we have her example to guide us, and we ought to be able to avoid the worst of her errors. Something like a military and civil dictatorship will have to be erected at Washington very soon, and Americans must adjust themselves to the new demands. In a few hours the fateful word will go forth, and the United States will be engaged in the most tremendous conflict since the world began. As the president truly says, we must "spend the whole force of the nation" if need be. And we cannot buy substitutes. We must do the work ourselves.

Woman's Club Is Unique In El Paso Organizations Has Made Itself Public Club; Public Interested

By G. A. MARTIN.

RECENT president of the Woman's club said to me: "The Woman's club stands for no clique; we are proud that we embrace the poor woman and the rich; we are a democracy of women."

This was while the campaign was in progress to raise money for the club home.

On such a platform the club has gone before the men of El Paso and solicited funds for its club house. It has made itself an exclusive club, like the Elks or the Elks or the U. D. C. organizations of women in El Paso. It is about itself in the same position with reference to the women of El Paso that the chamber of commerce occupies for the men—has made itself the clearing house for thought, for civic action, for education and for self betterment, at least the club has been told; its meetings have always been open meetings, open to both sexes, but particularly inviting the attendance of women, non-members paying the small admission fee of 25 cents.

Therefore the Woman's club has declared itself to be a public institution, and its affairs, so long as it chooses to make itself a public organization, are of interest to the public. Once any organization makes a public appeal for support, the public has a right to know that its affairs are directed for the public good. Nobody charges that the recent election was a fraud; nobody believes that it was and nobody outside, not even the insurgents, so far as I have heard, has put it as strong as one of the club's ex-presidents, who said: "It did look crooked, didn't it?" She explained it by asserting that it is due to our allied methods of doing business. That is what we all believe about it, but "allied" or not, when the matter was to be discussed, why did the members of an organization that has lived on publicity, that owes its present home to publicity, decide to turn down the light and go into secret session the first time a change of leadership was made? It is too deep for us in the editorial office of El Paso who have been besieged more by those in authority in the Woman's club for publicity than by any other organization in El Paso, the chamber of commerce not excepted. The plea was made when the Woman's club was building its new home that "the men have their clubs, many of them; the women have none." Nature

ally the men believed that in helping to erect this club, they were erecting it for the benefit of all citizens, and as one must believe by reading the constitution and bylaws of the organization, then why should they be interested outside the club in the internal affairs of the club, particularly when a large number of the membership charged that the election was irregular?

Taking the statement of Mrs. V. E. Baggett, present treasurer of the club, as published in the Herald last Wednesday, what contention of men in El Paso would stand for an election such as that against which some of the members complained? It is a question that was taken up and turned over to a committee of three, all of whom were candidates, and that the committee was to report the result of the count was not announced except through the papers and the club has never—not even at the special meeting held last week—admitted the number of votes cast for each candidate. The books of the club do not show by what vote any officer was elected, but they have been made to show it since last week. Naturally some of the members feel that they had a right to know by what vote the various officers were elected. Why is it necessary to discuss this behind closed doors at the called meeting—in view of the fact that nothing that has ever been done in the past has been permitted to escape publicity?

If we are going to have a Woman's club that is to be a public institution, it is that to be as big as its promoters and those now in charge of it claim it to be, and it is to be open to the public to believe; if it is to be a tight little organization for a few people, ruled as the czar of Russia ruled his subjects, and if the club is to be a person, not covered up with others, it is a person or an organization is to have faith and support necessary for success.

There is still time to get gardens started in El Paso. The response to a recent call of W. G. Roe, George H. LeBaron and others that El Pasoans utilize the vacant lots and their back yards for the growing of vegetables and flowers, has been particularly, has met with some compliance, but there is still room for much more activity along this line. Such cultivation is becoming general in the larger, progressive cities of the country. Los Angeles is making great

strides, according to Mr. Roe, who has been getting in touch with some of the cities of the country where back yard and vacant lot gardening is being taken up.

Supported by mayor Frederick T. Woodman, the chamber of commerce, the El Paso Chamber of Commerce, the Teacher's association, special citizens' committees and the newspapers, a campaign has been started to place every foot of vacant city lot in Los Angeles under cultivation. Free plowing and free water is promised to the enterprising citizens who wish to raise potatoes, onions or other vegetables on vacant lots. Free lectures on soil culture are given daily at noon at the chamber of commerce.

It is estimated that there are 100,000 city lot spaces in Los Angeles that can be utilized for gardens, a total cultivation area of almost 15,000 acres. Intensive farming averages more than \$100 per acre, so that if this figure is attained, there will be nearly \$2,000,000 worth of vegetables produced each year, of which there are several in a year in southern California.

During 1915 a home garden campaign among school children resulted in 100,000 Los Angeles youngsters cultivating the soil. The economic value of the city lot farm was forcibly demonstrated at the time the potatoes were very cheap. It is believed that this spring will find a larger percentage of bungalow dwellers tilling the ground than at any other time in history, with the resultant effect of smothering an attempt that may be made in cornering the vegetable market.

Why won't El Paso take up these things?

Answer to Carl Bear's problem if a train running 30 miles an hour leaves New York at the time a train running 60 miles an hour leaves Chicago, which is the closest to New York when they pass: They are the same distance, of course, when they pass.

Someone has handed in an automobile, found in the Pullman car Leona on the last day of the Pop, Post and Progress excursion. The owner can get it by calling for it.

The galley boy says if he had once been defeated decisively for mayor, he would take the hint and quit trying to butt into politics again. "When my head is cracked once, that's enough," he says, wisely.

Another echo of the P. P. P. excursion comes from Placitas, the seat of the memorable battle with the normal school. In the following interview with business men of that place relative to the El Pasoans, published in the Coccinillo Sun:

W. D. Badger, merchant: "If the Pop bunch from El Paso thought they had a monopoly on that term they certainly left Placitas with a clean looking lot of good fellows."

W. D. Badger, merchant: "The

heard of the organization of the bachelors they made overtures of peace, with the result that the two got together and agreed that the bachelors would establish an alliance against the returning wives would prefer against their respective summer widowers and the alleged widowers were to boost the bachelors with all the young women and persuade their wives to do the same.

Meet in Old Custom's House Yard.

The first joint meeting of the summer grass widowers and their allies, the bachelors, was held in the yard of the old custom house which stood on the corner now occupied by the big Cactus block. Barbecue pie was the picnic of resistance of the banquet served on this occasion. An elaborate musical program was presented and every back in the town was engaged by the bachelors to take the summer grass widowers home.

Each succeeding June, as soon as the wives of the summer grass widowers left for the sea coast or some mountain resort, the bachelors and summer grass widowers would get together and celebrate. Their favorite rendezvous was the beautiful Cactus block, where they would feast, sing, make speeches and so on. Soda pop and beer were served at the meals and corn pipes were smoked while the crowd, always near, listened to the music and to the words of condolence offered by the bachelors to the summer grass widowers, and to the latter's advice to the single men to get home in time for it.

Both ex-mayor C. E. Kelly and S. J. Presidential, during the life of the organization, served as presidents of the bachelors and the summer grass widowers, and Judge Hunter always con-

AESOP AND PREPAREDNESS

BY COFFMAN



Ever read in Aesop's Fables about the Fox that was traveling through the forest and met a bear who was sharpening his tusks against a tree? There's a good lesson in it for this country to heed.

HOGWALLOW LOCALS

By GEORGE BINGHAM

Club Han- cock's scare- crow in the cherry tree out by the garden fence has come out in a straw hat.

Staying with a thing may tend to make something out of it. But, I can't believe this is so, as she has been with Peko for more than thirty years.

Atlas Peck lectured at the hall in Tickleby on the Mississippi river. He got along all right with his talk as long as he stayed near shore.

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Stop Building Outdoor Fires. Says the Marshal Homestead Act Gives Settlers Chance In New Mexico

There is an ordinance against building fires or burning trash out of doors," said fire marshal R. H. Deason, "and I am going to enforce it; also about the people who do not keep gasoline in the proper containers, and in regard to the disposal of ashes. There is an ordinance that ashes must not be kept in wooden boxes or piled against fences, but must be put in metal cans. As soon as people get the idea of cooperating in these things the sooner we will have our fire insurance rate cut down, and less chance of loss to property and life. If citizens don't know what to do about certain cases they should call me up and not take a chance with the property of entire neighborhoods or the lives of those dear to them."

The new homestead act is the most important land legislation of recent years," said Harry A. Martin, of Silver City, N. M. "This act permits the homesteader to take up a full section of land, 640 acres, instead of a quarter section, 160 acres, thus giving him more capital to use without perceptibly increasing the overhead cost, enabling him to carry on his business on a larger scale and after proving up on his claim he will have four times as much land as was provided by the old act. This opportunity is being eagerly

by seized upon by the homesteaders and all land available for homesteading purposes is being rapidly taken up."

"While little publicization has been given to the patriotic spirit of the American citizens, the nation stands united in event of war with a foreign foe," said James K. Greenwood, "there is not a steel industry, an iron works, a brass factory or any other industry that I saw on a recent eastern trip that the owners have not already signified to president Wilson that they are willing to turn over for munition factories."

"When the revolt in Mexico is over and peace again reigns in the southern republic, El Paso will become the gateway to one of the greatest countries in natural resources in the world," said Charles J. Higgely. "American capitalists are ready to invest millions of dollars in Mexico for the development of the country. But they will not do this until after peace is restored and bandit bands have been exterminated."

The public school yards of the city will supply adequate playground space for the children when they are completely equipped, but what is needed is a playground situated at some central place south of San Antonio street," said A. M. Holmes. "A playground so situated and equipped with only the simplest forms of amusement would attract the younger boys and girls who are not old enough to work from the streets and public places. At present

with a letter that he went in with and then he arrives home and runs up against a cold spell of weather with coal still selling at \$12 a ton.

Insurgents are dangerous when they have ground for their insurrection. They were taught at when they started out to scalp old Uncle Joe Cannon, but they turned the laugh, eventually. Insurgents destroyed the king of Persia; Diaz of Mexico, surely, lately, the czar of all the Russias. It was insurrection that freed the American nation from British rule. It all started because those in authority failed to recognize the rights of their subjects. No man nor woman is too great for it to undo."

E. C. Davis is not attempting any ambush on his friends. He is just trying to see what he can do in the line of mustache growing. The paragraph above reminded me to write this one.

Vernon R. Stiles is a lucky fellow. In the battle of Placitas he came out

LETTERS TO THE HERALD

(All communications must bear the signature of the writer, but the name will be withheld if requested.)

AS TO BLOCKADES.

If you will grant me space in your paper I would like to reply to Chas. F. Barnes, of Nogales, Ariz., whose letter appeared in your column of March 26, charging president Wilson with being unneutral to Germany by entering into trade relations with the allies. I desire to call his attention to the international interpretation of a blockade prior to the present war. A blockade, to be valid, must be effective. In other words there can be no blockade where a belligerent cannot physically enforce it. The famous "paper blockade," so-called, decreed by England and France against each other in the early part of the last century were held not to have been effective and, therefore, that no blockade existed because neither belligerent had the requisite number of armed vessels to enforce the decree.

To hold that Germany's present

A failure to prevent trade with a blockaded port by a belligerent cannot militate against a neutral.

Mr. Wilson has acted wholly within his right as president of the United States, Germany herself having furnished, in all probability, the greatest number of precedents for the unneutral acts with which Mr. Barnes has charged him.

L. H. Cook,
Captain, 6th Infantry, U. S. A.

The ordinary cost of a West Ad in the El Paso Herald is 25 cents. It reaches an average of about 125,000 readers each issue.

A dollar saved by buying goods produced elsewhere is a dollar thrown at your neighbor's birds.

EL PASO HERALD

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE, THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A CHAMPION, AND NO EVIL SHALL NOT THRIVE UNOPPOSED.

H. D. Slater, editor and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 19 years; J. C. Wilmarth is manager and G. A. Martin is News Editor.

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Abe Martin



Hominy eventually—why not now? Mrs. Tipton Bud says she'd hate to be a politician on account of the 'n'ickle cigar smoke.

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Short Snatches From Everywhere

Russia didn't have room enough for Romanoff—New York Evening Journal.

Russian revolutionist pretty soon won't have any more job than an American prohibitionist—Boston Transcript.

The difference between war and what we have now is that now we aren't fighting back—Philadelphia North American.

"The bear that walks like a man" is now beginning to act like a man. He refuses to get down on all fours again.—New York World.

Of course, it would be too much to expect the hungry folk of Germany to take a tip from the hungry folk of Russia—Macon Telegraph.

At the present rate of movement one of count Zeppelin's creations may yet come in handy to carry the Kaiser out of the German republic—Washington Post.

Mr. Woodman pointed out that the reason for this wholesale departure of these laborers is because they are paid an average of \$2 per day in the north, while in Texas the average is not over \$1.50 a day.

"WELL, soon be giving the cost of living a solar plexus blow!" So men are crying as they go plowing the spade and rake and hoe. About ten million, perhaps a billion, have made their solemn vows to labor hard in the fertile garden, encouraged by their fraus. We'll all be raising green goods amazing, all kinds of peas and beans, our bosoms glowing, we'll all be showing huge sacks of luscious greens. And while we're humping we'll hear the slumping of prices at the store; they'll be descending, still downward wending, till they can sink no more. Oh, it is trying when you've been plowing the hoe, all summer long, it makes you sadish to find your radish is worth less than a song! You vow you'll never waste fierce endeavor by raising things from seeds, and you determine you'll do no squintin' hereafter in the weeds. This year you'll find us at work, and blind us, in cheap and smart stained dolo; in years thereafter we'll shriek with laughter if you name home grown spuds.

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WALT MASON.

An Old Story